Students' Association
Film and Television Institute of India,
Law College Road,
Pune: 411004

Date – 06/10/2015

To,
Joint Secretary, Ministry of I&B
Government of India

Dear Sir,

We write this letter to you in reference to your repeated expectation to maintain a 'conducive environment' by students during the course of a series of dialogue to resolve the current crisis amicably. We would like to express that it is ironic that we are expected to deliver on the same when the ministry is time and again doing the otherwise. The S.M. Khan committee report was not only strategically delayed but also has been leaked to the media at such an important juncture of our dialogue that it can only be looked in as you say 'bad taste'.

There are major issues with the report and most importantly the intent of the report at best looks malicious with a purpose to character assassinate the image of the students, ex-students and the faculty, which is contradictory to our experience while interacting with the concerned panel.

We would also like to mention that the students were misguided that the committee was empowered to resolve the larger crisis relating to the questionable appointments made in the FTII Society which was at a later stage conveniently narrowed down to the incidents relating to 2008 batch assessments. A breach of trust continues to mar our relationship with the ministry due to such actions and intentions from your side.

Also, the report is heavily colored by the opinion of a few non - teaching and administrative staff who are not directly related to larger academic discourse in FTII . If the concerns of the committee were strictly related to the 2008 batch assessments and the events around it, which is an issue purely academic in nature, then why does the report favour manipulated opinions of non-academic staff members over the respected faculty and students who deal with academics of the institution on a day to day basis.

Such a report is highly condemnable and we appeal to the ministry to share the minutes and the video recordings of the S.M. Khan committee meeting for transparency and trust to prevail between students and the ministry.

Despite these concerns, the students are still engaging in a meaningful dialogue and we come to every meeting with the hope that the Ministry will resolve the crisis.

Thanks,

HarishankarNachimuthu
Vikas Urs
Ajayan Adat
Reema Kaur
Ranjit Nair
Malyaj Awasthi
Shini J K